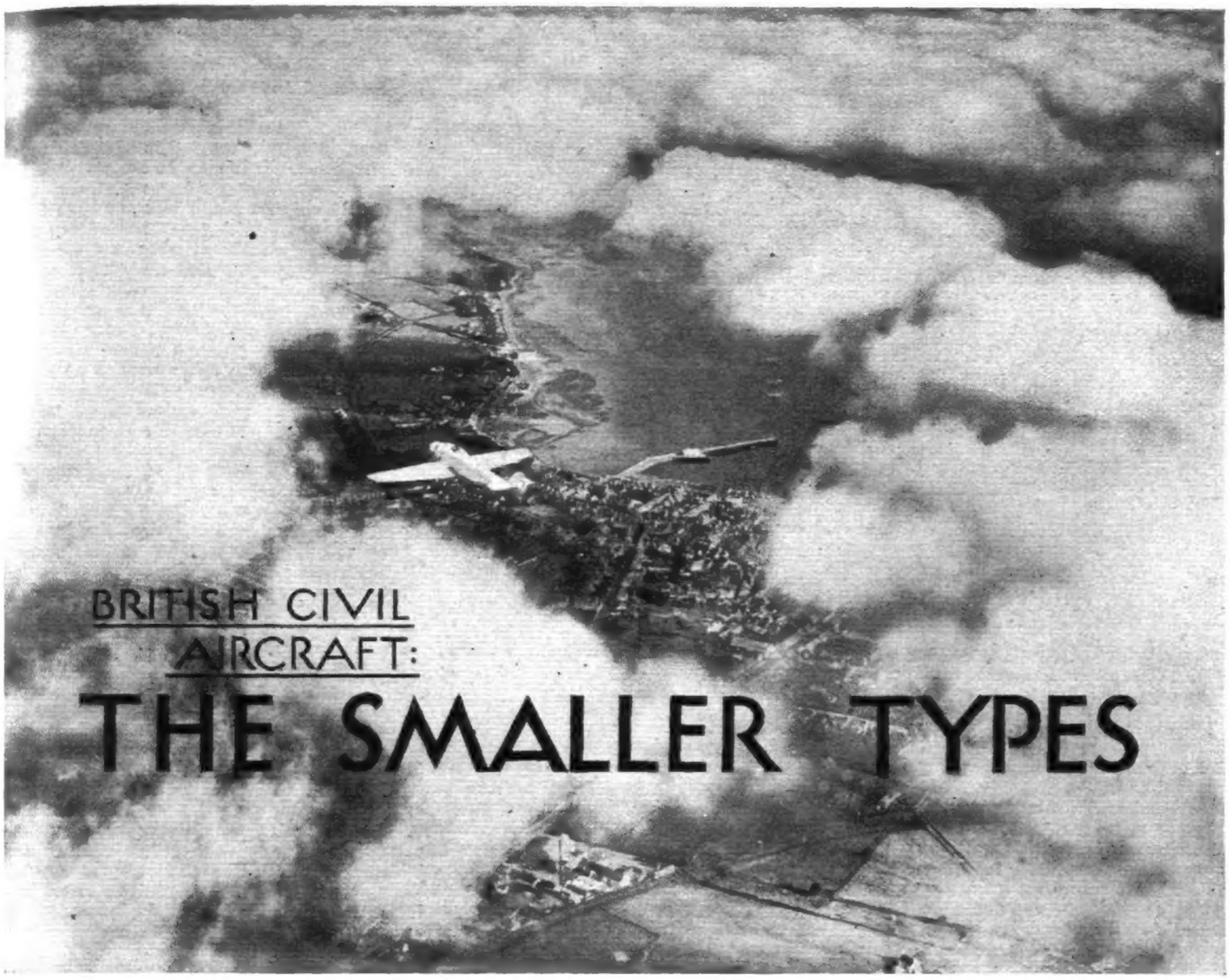


BRITISH CIVIL AIRCRAFT: THE SMALLER TYPES

A Review of the Machines Available To-day

ANY distinction between large and small civil types is essentially a compromise. In this review the line has been drawn at the four-five-seater, any machine normally carrying fewer than six passengers being considered as belonging to the light or private-owner class.

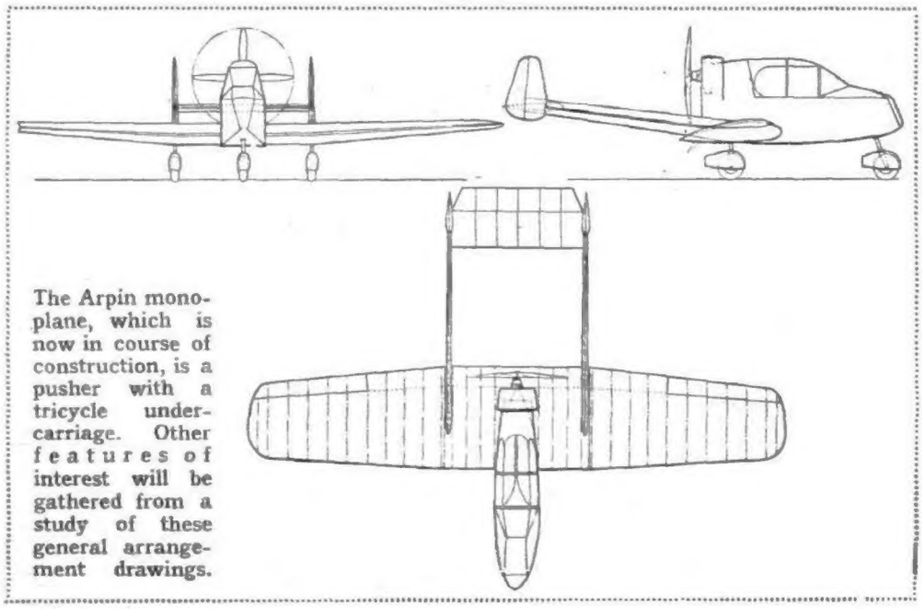
Among the machines described in this section several have their place in each class. The D.H. Dragonfly and the Universal Monospar, for instance, make admirable feeder-line or charter types, and the Ambulance version of the latter should really be installed in a section of its own. The B.A. Eagle, the Heston Phœnix and the Percival Vega Gull can be considered either as private or charter types, while the D.H. Tiger Moth and the Miles Magister are economical trainers for civil or service use. The list of multi-purpose machines could be extended almost indefinitely. However, the division of types at least gives the casual reader some breathing-space and the majority of the more serious readers will find it more easy to pick out the types in which they are interested. Incidentally, there are more than thirty types in this section; so much for the Jeremiahs. Performance and other figures will be found in the table on page 522.

ARPIN

THE first machine in this country to be designed around a tricycle type of undercarriage, the *Arpin* pusher, is a type which is now in process of development. Safety and comfort have been the two points for which the designer has striven. By placing the engine behind, an almost perfect field of useful view has been provided for the occupants, and the controls have been arranged so that it is almost impossible for the pilot to get into difficulties.

Generally speaking, the layout is somewhat similar to that of the Stearman-Hammond, which was described in last week's issue, the specification including twin fins and rudders supported on tailbooms, and a split flap, which extends unbroken from aileron to aileron. The engine to be fitted is a British Salmson of 68 b.h.p.

M. B. Arpin and Co., Longford, West Drayton, Middlesex.



The Arpin monoplane, which is now in course of construction, is a pusher with a tricycle undercarriage. Other features of interest will be gathered from a study of these general arrangement drawings.